United Nations A/60/6 (Sect. 3)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 April 2005

Original: English

Sixtieth session

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007*

Part II
Political affairs

Section 3
Political affairs

(Programme 2 of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2006-2007)**

Contents

		Page
I.	Overview	3
A.	Department of Political Affairs	7
1.	Policymaking organs	9
(a)	Security Council	9
(b)	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	10
2.	Executive direction and management	11
3.	Programme of work	13
	Subprogramme 1. Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts	14
	Subprogramme 2. Electoral assistance	17
	Subprogramme 3. Security Council affairs	19
	Subprogramme 4. Decolonization	22
	Subprogramme 5. Question of Palestine	25

* A summary of the approved programme budget will subsequently be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/60/6/Add.1).

** *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/59/6/Rev.1).

05-31707 (E) 130505

4. Programme support 27

B. Special political missions 28

C. Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process 29

Annexes

I. Requests from Member States for electoral assistance 36

II. Outputs produced in 2004-2005 not to be carried out in the biennium 2006-2007 37

Overview

3.1 The responsibility for the implementation of the work programme of this section is vested in the Department of Political Affairs. The legislative authority for the programme derives from the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. The activities for which the Department is responsible fall under programme 2, Political affairs, of the biennial programme plan for the period 2006-2007.

3.2 The overall goal of the Department is to provide assistance to States in the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the decisions of the United Nations organs, in particular the Security Council, which has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security; to promote the prevention of conflicts, wherever possible, through diplomatic means and peacemaking; and to assist in the control and resolution of existing conflicts. In addition, the Department continues in its role as focal point for post-conflict peacebuilding. The Department also provides electoral assistance to Member States, at their request and in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council; provides substantive support and secretariat services to the Security Council, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, as well as other intergovernmental bodies.

3.3 During the biennium 2006-2007, the Department will continue its efforts to reinforce the Organization's capacity for early warning, good offices and non-military measures to prevent disputes from escalating into conflicts. It will also assist, as mandated, in the resolution of conflicts, while fully respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Member States and the principles of non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, as well as respecting the principle of consent, which is an essential element of such efforts. The Department will also continue to enhance the Organization's capacity with regard to the political aspects of peacebuilding, as mandated by the relevant intergovernmental bodies.

3.4 In its capacity as the lead department on the subject of terrorism, the Department of Political Affairs will work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and with other relevant departments within the Secretariat in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

3.5 Special attention will be given to incorporating a gender perspective into the work programme of the Department, in accordance with the decisions of the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

3.6 The expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement for the Department in the biennium 2006-2007 are detailed, together with required resources, under executive direction and management and programme of work. The overall framework of these expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement is shown in table 3.1.

Table 3.1 **Framework of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement by component**

Component	*Number of expected accomplishments*	*Number of indicators of achievement*
A. Department of Political Affairs		
1. Policymaking organs	—	—
2. Executive direction and management	2	4
3. Programme of work		
Subprogramme 1. Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts	2	3
Subprogramme 2. Electoral assistance	1	1
Subprogramme 3. Security Council affairs	4	4
Subprogramme 4. Decolonization	1	1
Subprogramme 5. Question of Palestine	1	3
4. Programme support	—	—
B. Special political missions	—	—
C. Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	3	3
Total	**14**	**19**

3.7 The issue of publications as a part of the programme of work has been reviewed in the context of each subprogramme. It is anticipated that recurrent and non-recurrent publications will be issued as shown in table 3.2 and in the output information for each subprogramme.

Table 3.2 **Summary of publications**

Publications	*2002-2003 actual*	*2004-2005 estimate*	*2006-2007 estimate*
Recurrent	86	118	118
Non-recurrent	3	5	5
Total	**89**	**123**	**123**

3.8 The overall level of resources of the section as a whole for the biennium 2006-2007 amounts to $425,183,200 before recosting, reflecting a net decrease of $2,444,000 (0.6 per cent), compared with the revised appropriation for the biennium 2004-2005, and comprises the resources for the Department of Political Affairs ($56,096,000) presented in section A; the provision for special political missions ($355,949,300) presented in section B; and the resources for the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process ($13,137,900) presented in section C. The overall decrease of $2,444,000 under the section relates to a decrease of $2,817,900 under the Department of Political Affairs and an increase of $373,900 for the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, reflecting mainly the delayed impact of the new posts approved in the biennium 2004-2005.

3.9 The decrease under the Department of Political Affairs ($2,817,900) can be summarized as follows:

(a) The net decrease under policymaking organs ($20,900) arising from the adjustments of one-time costs relating to the meeting of the Security Council in Africa;

(b) The net increase of $39,000 under executive direction and management relating to additional requirements in non-post items;

(c) The net decrease under programme of work ($3,105,300) comprising:

(i) A net increase of $30,100 under subprogramme 1, Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts, relating to additional requirements in non-post items to meet the surge in activities;

(ii) A net increase of $460,800 under subprogramme 2, Electoral assistance, comprising $290,600 for two new posts and $170,200 for non-post items to address increasing requests for electoral assistance (data on requests for electoral assistance are provided in annex I);

(iii) A net decrease of $3,515,000 under subprogramme 3, Security Council affairs, relating to the abolition of six posts ($961,200), and non-post items ($2,553,800) resulting from the adjustments following the establishment of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate;

(iv) A net decrease of $81,200 under subprogramme 5, Question of Palestine, owing to changed requirements under non-post items;

(d) The net increase of $269,300 under programme support for non-post items.

3.10 The net increase of $373,900 for the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process comprises $452,400 for the delayed impact of new posts approved in the biennium 2004-2005, offset partly by a net decrease in non-post items ($78,500) resulting mainly from removal of non-recurrent requirements.

3.11 During the biennium, extrabudgetary resources estimated at $11,946,100 will be utilized to supplement substantive activities in the areas of preventive diplomacy, conflict resolution, peacemaking, peacebuilding and electoral assistance.

3.12 Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/269, resources identified for the conduct of monitoring and evaluation would amount to $146,200 and are included under executive direction and management ($19,000) and various subprogrammes ($127,200).

3.13 The estimated percentage distribution of resources in the biennium 2006-2007 under section 3 of the programme budget would be as shown in table 3.3.

Table 3.3 Percentage distribution of resources by component

Component	*Regular budget*	*Extrabudgetary*
A. Department of Political Affairs		
1. Policymaking organs		
(a) Security Council	0.1	—
(b) Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	—	—
Subtotal 1	**0.1**	**—**
2. Executive direction and management	1.8	—
Subtotal 2	**1.8**	**—**
3. Programme of work		—
Subprogramme 1. Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts	4.7	78.8
Subprogramme 2. Electoral assistance	1.1	10.3
Subprogramme 3. Security Council affairs	2.8	1.7

Component	Regular budget	Extrabudgetary
Subprogramme 4. Decolonization	0.3	—
Subprogramme 5. Question of Palestine	1.3	—
Subtotal 3	**10.2**	**90.8**
4. Programme support	1.1	2.3
Subtotal 4	**1.1**	**2.3**
Total A	**13.2**	**93.1**
B. Special political missions	**83.7**	**6.9**
C. Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	**3.1**	**—**
Grand total A, B and C	**100.0**	**100.0**

3.14 The distribution of resources is summarized in table 3.4, and the post requirements are set out in table 3.5.

Table 3.4 **Requirements by component and source of funds**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component	2002-2003 expenditure	2004-2005 appropriation	Resource growth		Total before recosting	Recosting	2006-2007 estimate
			Amount	Percentage			
A. Department of Political Affairs	46 971.6	58 913.9	(2 817.9)	(4.8)	56 096.0	3 485.4	59 581.4
B. Special political missions	204 634.2	355 949.3	—	—	355 949.3	—	355 949.3
C. Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	10 352.1	12 764.0	373.9	2.9	13 137.9	701.1	13 839.0
Subtotal	**261 957.9**	**427 627.2**	**(2 444.0)**	**(0.6)**	**425 183.2**	**4 186.5**	**429 369.7**

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

	2002-2003 expenditure	2004-2005 estimate	Source of funds	2006-2007 estimate
Subtotal	**10 535.7**	**17 310.1**		**11 946.1**
Total (1) and (2)	**272 493.6**	**444 937.3**		**441 315.8**

Table 3.5 **Post requirements**

Category	Established regular budget posts		Temporary posts: Regular budget		Temporary posts: Extrabudgetary		Total	
	2004-2005	2006-2007	2004-2005	2006-2007	2004-2005	2006-2007	2004-2005	2006-2007
Professional and above								
USG	1	1	1	1	—	—	2	2
ASG	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
D-2	6	6	1	1	—	—	7	7
D-1	13	13	—	—	—	—	13	13
P-5	28	28	7	7	—	—	35	35
P-4/3	57	59	13	12	—	—	70	71
P-2/1	10	10	1	—	—	—	11	10
Subtotal	**117**	**119**	**23**	**21**	**—**	**—**	**140**	**140**
General Service								
Principal level	5	5	1	1	—	—	6	6
Other level	79	79	8	4	—	—	87	83
Subtotal	**84**	**84**	**9**	**5**	**—**	**—**	**93**	**89**
Other categories								
Security Service	—	—	6	6	—	—	6	6
Local level	—	—	24	24	—	—	24	24
Field Service	—	—	4	4	—	—	4	4
Subtotal	**—**	**—**	**34**	**34**	**—**	**—**	**34**	**34**
Total	**201**	**203**	**66**	**60**	**—**	**—**	**267**	**263**

A. Department of Political Affairs

Resource requirements (before recosting): $56,096,000

Table 3.6 **Resource requirements by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component	2002-2003 expenditure	2004-2005 appropriation	Resource growth: Amount	Resource growth: Percentage	Total before recosting	Recosting	2006-2007 estimate
1. Policymaking organs							
Security Council Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	69.5	228.8	(20.9)	(9.1)	207.9	10.5	218.4
	20.7	61.6	—	—	61.6	3.2	64.8
Subtotal 1	**90.2**	**290.4**	**(20.9)**	**(7.2)**	**269.5**	**13.7**	**283.2**

Component	2002-2003 expenditure	2004-2005 appropriation	Resource growth Amount	Resource growth Percentage	Total before recosting	Recosting	2006-2007 estimate
2. Executive direction and management	6 163.1	7 660.0	39.0	0.5	7 699.0	489.8	8 188.8
Subtotal 2	**6 163.1**	**7 660.0**	**39.0**	**0.5**	**7 699.0**	**489.8**	**8 188.8**
3. Programme of work							
Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts	17 518.8	19 958.1	30.1	0.2	19 988.2	1 208.5	21 196.7
Electoral assistance	3 552.2	4 109.8	460.8	11.2	4 570.6	265.4	4 836.0
Security Council affairs	9 855.5	15 635.8	(3 515.0)	(22.5)	12 120.8	800.6	12 921.4
Decolonization	1 052.8	1 338.0	—	—	1 338.0	82.8	1 420.8
Question of Palestine	4 917.9	5 584.1	(81.2)	(1.5)	5 502.9	323.8	5 826.7
Subtotal 3	**36 897.2**	**46 625.8**	**(3 105.3)**	**(6.7)**	**43 520.5**	**2 681.1**	**46 201.6**
4. Programme support	3 821.1	4 337.7	269.3	6.2	4 607.0	300.8	4 907.8
Subtotal 4	**3 821.1**	**4 337.7**	**269.3**	**6.2**	**4 607.0**	**300.8**	**4 907.8**
Total	**46 971.6**	**58 913.9**	**(2 817.9)**	**(4.8)**	**56 096.0**	**3 485.4**	**59 581.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

	2002-2003 expenditure	2004-2005 estimate	Source of funds	2006-2007 estimate
Total	**8 314.0**	**15 279.9**		**11 125.7**
Grand total (1) and (2)	**55 285.6**	**74 193.8**		**70 707.1**

Table 3.7 **Post requirements**

Category	Established regular budget posts 2004-2005	Established regular budget posts 2006-2007	Temporary posts: Regular budget 2004-2005	Temporary posts: Regular budget 2006-2007	Temporary posts: Extrabudgetary 2004-2005	Temporary posts: Extrabudgetary 2006-2007	Total 2004-2005	Total 2006-2007
Professional and above								
USG	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
ASG	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
D-2	6	6	—	—	—	—	6	6
D-1	13	13	—	—	—	—	13	13
P-5	28	28	1	1	—	—	29	29
P-4/3	57	59	1	—	—	—	58	59
P-2/1	10	10	1	—	—	—	11	10
Subtotal	**117**	**119**	**3**	**1**	**—**	**—**	**120**	**120**

Category	Established regular budget posts		Temporary posts				Total	
			Regular budget		Extrabudgetary			
	2004-2005	2006-2007	2004-2005	2006-2007	2004-2005	2006-2007	2004-2005	2006-2007
General Service								
Principal level	5	5	—	—	—	—	5	5
Other level	79	79	7	3	—	—	86	82
Subtotal	**84**	**84**	**7**	**3**	**—**	**—**	**91**	**87**
Total	**201**	**203**	**10**	**4**	**—**	**—**	**211**	**207**

1. Policymaking organs

(a) Security Council

Resource requirements (before recosting): $207,900

3.15 The Security Council, one of the principal organs of the United Nations under Article 7 of the Charter of the United Nations, is charged with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. As specified in Article 28 of the Charter, the Council is organized so as to be able to function continuously. In addition to periodic meetings, the President can call meetings of the Council at any time he/she deems necessary, as well as at the request of any member of the Council and in the context of Articles 11, 35 and 99 of the Charter.

3.16 Consequently, the Department is unable to indicate with any degree of accuracy the number of meetings the Security Council will hold during the biennium 2006-2007. During the first half of the 2004-2005 biennium, the Council held 231 formal meetings, 172 informal consultations of the whole and additional preparatory and follow-up consultations.

3.17 The Security Council is authorized, under Article 29 of the Charter, to establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions. In addition to the Informal Working Group on documentation and other procedural questions, the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations, the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, the Informal Working Group on General Issues of Sanctions and the Working Group established pursuant to resolution 1566 (2004), there are currently 13 other subsidiary organs of the Council: (a) the Committee on the Admission of New Members, (b) the Committee on Council Meetings away from Headquarters, (c) the (sanctions) Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia, (d) the (sanctions) Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda, (e) the (sanctions) Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone, (f) the (sanctions) Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities, (g) the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism, (h) the (sanctions) Committee established pursuant to resolution 1518 (2003), (i) the (sanctions) Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia; (j) the (sanctions) Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, (k) the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), (l) the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire and (m) the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan. In addition, the Council has established the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team to support the work of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999), the Panel of Experts

relating to the Liberia sanctions Committee, the Group of Experts relating to the Democratic Republic of the Congo sanctions Committee, the Monitoring Group relating to the Somalia sanctions Committee, the Group of Experts relating to the Côte d'Ivoire sanctions Committee and the Panel of Experts relating to the Sudan sanctions Committee.

Table 3.8 **Resource requirements: Security Council**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Post				
Non-post	228.8	207.9	—	—
Total	**228.8**	**207.9**	—	—

3.18 The resources indicated in table 3.8 would provide for the travel of Chairpersons of the sanctions Committees to assess first-hand the effectiveness and impact of sanctions imposed by the Security Council, and for external printing. The decrease in requirements reflects the adjustments relating to one-time staff travel costs in connection with the meeting of the Security Council in Africa.

(b) Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Resource requirements (before recosting): $61,600

3.19 The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975. The Committee meets throughout the year as required and submits an annual report to the General Assembly. In discharging its mandate to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the Committee participates in meetings, sends delegations on missions and invites, as necessary, prominent personalities or experts. Its mandate, which has been expanded over the years, was most recently reaffirmed by the Assembly in its resolution 59/28 of 1 December 2004. It is envisaged that the Committee will remain in existence until a just, comprehensive and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine has been achieved, Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements are effectively implemented and the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are fully realized.

Table 3.9 **Resource requirements: Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Post				
Non-post	61.6	61.6	—	—
Total	**61.6**	**61.6**	—	—

3.20 The resources indicated in table 3.9, at the maintenance level, would cover the travel of representatives of the Committee and prominent personalities invited by the Committee.

2. Executive direction and management

Resource requirements (before recosting): $7,699,000

3.21 The Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs is charged with the overall policy direction, supervision and management of the Department. In addition to performing the functions of head of department, the Under-Secretary-General provides the Secretary-General with advice and support on political matters; provides political guidance and instructions to special envoys and special representatives of the Secretary-General; directs and manages good-offices, fact-finding and special political missions; undertakes consultations and negotiations relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes; advises the Secretary-General on matters relating to post-conflict peacebuilding, for which the Department is the focal point; acts as the United Nations Focal Point for Electoral Assistance Activities; and convenes regular meetings of the Executive Committee on Peace and Security.

3.22 In the exercise of his responsibilities, the Under-Secretary-General is assisted by two Assistant Secretaries-General. One Assistant Secretary-General supervises the Africa I and II Divisions as well as the Security Council Affairs Division, while the other supervises the Americas and Europe Division, the Asia and the Pacific Division, the Division for Palestinian Rights and the Decolonization Unit. The Electoral Assistance Division reports directly to the Under-Secretary-General.

3.23 The Policy Planning Unit within the Office of the Under-Secretary-General develops policy options, undertakes background research and drafts analytical papers and documents on cross-cutting issues or emerging questions relevant to the Department, particularly in the fields of conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding.

3.24 The secretariat of the Executive Committee on Peace and Security, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/241, reports directly to and supports the Under-Secretary-General in his role as convenor of the Committee. A key function of the Executive Committee secretariat is to liaise across the United Nations system in the preparation of substantive inputs to the work of the Committee and the follow-up to its decisions. The secretariat also supports the establishment and operation of task forces and working groups under the auspices of the Committee.

Table 3.10 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To ensure full implementation of legislative mandates and compliance with United Nations policies and procedures with respect to the management of the programme of work and of staff and financial resources.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Programme of work is effectively managed within available human and financial resources	(a) (i) Timely delivery of outputs and services *Performance measures*: percentage of requested materials/services provided on or before deadline

	2002-2003: 100 per cent Estimate 2004-2005: 100 per cent Target 2006-2007: 100 per cent (ii) Timely recruitment and placement of staff *Performance measures*: incumbency rates for established posts 2002-2003: 95 per cent Estimate 2004-2005: 96 per cent Target 2006-2007: 97 per cent (iii) Efficient and effective utilization of resources in accordance with priorities and United Nations policies and procedures *Performance measures*: budget implementation rate 2002-2003: 97 per cent of revised appropriation Estimate 2004-2005: 98 per cent of revised appropriation Target 2006-2007: 98 per cent of revised appropriation
(b) Effective backstopping/servicing/ management of special political missions, field offices and high-level envoys	(b) Satisfaction of field offices, special political missions and special envoys with support from the Department at Headquarters *Performance measures*: number of complaints 2002-2003: Not available Estimate 2004-2005: No complaints on support provided Target 2006-2007: No complaints on support provided

Table 3.11 **Resource requirements: executive direction and management**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Post	7 100.6	7 100.6	29	29
Non-post	559.4	598.4	—	—
Total	**7 660.0**	**7 699.0**	**29**	**29**

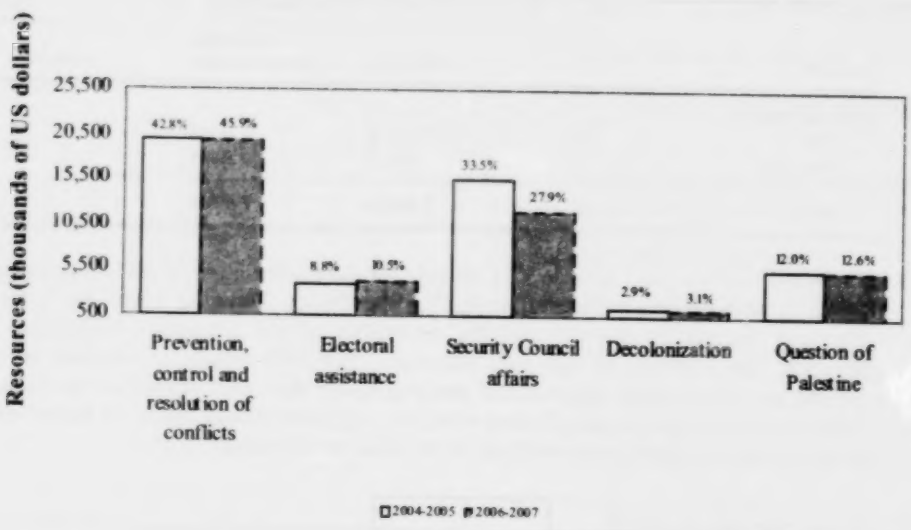
3.25 The resources indicated in table 3.11 provide for the continuation of the existing posts in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General, including the Policy Planning Unit, the Offices of the two Assistant Secretaries-General and the secretariat of the Executive Committee on Peace and Security. The increase in non-post resources ($39,000) relates to services of consultants and experts on policy issues, research and analysis and to the travel of staff on the basis of expenditure patterns with respect to fact-finding missions, representational travel on behalf of the Secretary-General and participation in meetings of regional organizations.

3. Programme of work

Table 3.12 **Resource requirements by subprogramme**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Subprogramme	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
1. Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts	19 958.1	19 988.2	76	76
2. Electoral assistance	4 109.8	4 570.6	14	16
3. Security Council affairs	15 635.8	12 120.8	58	52
4. Decolonization	1 338.0	1 338.0	5	5
5. Question of Palestine	5 584.1	5 502.9	16	16
Subtotal	**46 625.8**	**43 520.5**	**169**	**165**
Extrabudgetary	14 998.0	10 843.8	—	—
Total	**61 623.8**	**54 364.3**	**169**	**165**

Regular budget resource requirements by subprogramme



Subprogramme 1
Prevention, control and resolution of conflicts

Resource requirements (before recosting): $19,988,200

3.26 The activities of subprogramme 1 will be implemented by the four regional Divisions, namely, the Africa I, Africa II, Americas and Europe, and Asia and the Pacific Divisions.

3.27 During the biennium 2006-2007, in order to attain the objective of this subprogramme, the Department will promote a more effective and cohesive response to help prevent, control and resolve conflicts and to address post-conflict peacebuilding challenges facing countries emerging from crisis or conflict by: (a) responding in a timely manner to new conflict situations; (b) providing timely and accurate information, analysis and policy options; (c) formulating recommendations on measures that could be undertaken by the United Nations system; (d) making available, and providing substantive support to, the Secretary-General's good offices aimed at facilitating peaceful outcomes of sensitive situations in various regions; (e) enhancing capacity for cooperation with regional and subregional organizations; (f) providing substantive support and guidance to special political and peacebuilding missions with the agreement of the Member States concerned where appropriate; (g) strengthening the Department's capacity and expertise in order to address more effectively challenges for peace and security; (h) undertaking research on post-conflict issues and best practices by the United Nations system in this area; and (i) developing coherent strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding, linking diplomatic, military, humanitarian and developmental efforts by the United Nations system and other international and regional actors. To this end, the Department of Political Affairs will work closely with other relevant parts of the United Nations system.

Table 3.13 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To assist in the prevention, control and resolution of conflicts through peaceful means as well as to promote a more cohesive and integrated response by the United Nations system in addressing post-conflict peacebuilding challenges facing countries emerging from crisis.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved capability to identify and address conflict situations and to participate in their resolution	(a) (i) Increased percentage of conflict situations addressed through peaceful means *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 68 conflict situations Estimate 2004-2005: 60 conflict situations Target 2006-2007: 62 conflict situations (ii) 100 per cent response to requests of Member States and regional organizations for preventive action *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 100 per cent Estimate 2004-2005: 100 per cent Target 2006-2007: 100 per cent
(b) Improved capability to keep the peace process on track once an agreement has been signed and to facilitate a durable peace	(b) Number of Member States in which post-conflict peacebuilding activities are carried out *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 27 Member States Estimate 2004-2005: 30 Member States Target 2006-2007: 33 Member States

External factors

3.28 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that (a) there is political will on the part of Member States to cooperate in the full implementation of the subprogramme and (b) there are no sudden and unforeseen political, economic and social developments that have an adverse impact on the subprogramme.

Outputs

3.29 During the biennium, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary meetings of the Assembly as required;

b. Parliamentary documentation: report on cooperation between the United Nations and various regional and subregional organizations (1); reports on diverse peace and security questions (approximately 20);

(ii) Security Council:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary meetings of the Council as required;

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports on various peace and security questions (approximately 100);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Fact-finding missions: fact-finding and other special missions on behalf of the Secretary-General;

(ii) Technical material: analytical papers, assessment notes and background papers focusing on early warning, options and recommendations for preventive action and peacebuilding, keeping in mind gender perspective;

(iii) Briefing notes, background papers, talking points and profiles for the meetings of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General, both in and away from New York;

(iv) Maintenance of divisional databases related to international peace and security issues for use by the Secretary-General and senior officials;

(v) Participation in seminars and academic meetings relevant to preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacebuilding;

(vi) Political advice and guidance to special representatives and special envoys of the Secretary-General;

(vii) Substantive political support for peacemaking and peacebuilding efforts, including support for field operations;

(viii) Substantive support for United Nations negotiating efforts and good offices for the prevention and resolution of conflicts.

Table 3.14 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 1**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Post	19 260.4	19 260.4	76	76
Non-post	697.7	727.8	—	—
Subtotal	**19 958.1**	**19 988.2**	**76**	**76**
Extrabudgetary	13 566.9	9 412.7	—	—
Total	**33 525.0**	**29 400.9**	**76**	**76**

3.30 The resource requirements indicated in table 3.14 provide for the continuation of the existing 76 posts and non-staff requirements for services of consultants and experts on issues pertaining to good offices, preventive diplomacy and peacemaking, official travel of staff, and general temporary assistance and overtime. The increase in non-post costs relates to the increasing need for

staffing capacity to meet the surge in activities and to the increased need for travel. Requirements for services of consultants and experts remain at the maintenance level.

Subprogramme 2
Electoral assistance

Resource requirements (before recosting): $4,570,600

3.31 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 2 is vested in the Electoral Assistance Division, which has the lead role in all United Nations electoral assistance activities. To achieve the objective of this subprogramme, the Electoral Assistance Division will provide international expertise in a timely, coordinated and effective manner to Member States, on request for the organization and conduct of electoral processes, including key guidance and support in the context of peace negotiations, peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions. The Division will assess the needs for the holding of elections in the requesting countries. On the basis of those assessments, the Division will formulate strategic responses and provide guidance on their execution, including technical cooperation and expert advice on the establishment and enhancement of electoral management bodies. In doing so, it will establish partnerships with national and international bodies, within and outside the United Nations system, in order to foster the consistent application of international standards. It will develop technical parameters and best practices in the field. The Division will also provide guidance on the establishment of electoral components in peace operations and on the organization of elections based on a mandate. The Division, in compliance with resolutions of the General Assembly or the Security Council, will support United Nations electoral observers when deployed. It is recalled that, in the context of the review of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended that information on requests for electoral assistance be provided in future in tabular form. Consistent with that recommendation information on requests for electoral assistance is provided in annex I below.

Table 3.15 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To render electoral assistance to Member States, at their request and in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, through the provision of the technical and advisory support necessary for holding periodic and fair elections.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
Enhanced capacity of Member States requesting assistance to organize periodic and fair elections	Increased number of successful United Nations electoral assistance missions
	Performance measures:
	2002-2003: 40 successful missions
	Estimate 2004-2005: 42 successful missions
	Target 2006-2007: 42 successful missions

External factors

3.32 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that the situation in each of the countries in which electoral assistance is requested is conducive to a fair and free election.

Outputs

3.33 During the biennium, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary meetings of the Assembly as required;

b. Parliamentary documentation: report on the activities of the United Nations aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of elections in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions (1);

(ii) Security Council:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary meetings of the Council as required;

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Fact-finding missions: needs-assessment missions to formulate strategic, system-wide responses to Member States requesting assistance in the conduct of their elections (40);

(ii) Technical material: maintenance of the United Nations competency-based electronic roster of electoral experts, and of the institutional memory in the provision of electoral assistance;

(iii) Production and dissemination to Member States of technical guidelines and reference materials on electoral processes, electoral legal framework and election organization and administration;

(iv) Promotion of legal instruments: establishment of institutional partnerships and mechanisms for cooperation with various organizations that can contribute electoral assistance to Member States;

(v) Seminars for outside users: training seminars and international symposia for electoral administrators and staff at the regional and national levels on the design, planning and autonomous implementation of transparent and accountable electoral processes;

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget and extrabudgetary):

Field projects: coordination of and support for international observers; design of electoral projects aimed at developing or enhancing the capacity of national electoral authorities, particularly in the areas of gender mainstreaming, voter registration and modernization of electoral processes; technical assistance missions to support field projects in support of electoral activities.

Table 3.16 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 2**

Category	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		Posts	
	2004-2005	2006-2007 (before recosting)	2004-2005	2006-2007
Regular budget				
Post	3 763.6	4 054.2	14	16
Non-post	346.2	516.4	—	—
Subtotal	**4 109.8**	**4 570.6**	**14**	**16**
Extrabudgetary	1 233.4	1 233.4	—	—
Total	**5 343.2**	**5 804.0**	**14**	**16**

3.34 The requirements for this subprogramme, indicated in table 3.16, provide for the continuation of 14 existing posts and the establishment of 2 new posts (1 P-4 and 1 P-3), as well as for non-post items, including general temporary assistance, consultants, contractual services and official travel. The two new posts are requested to enable the Electoral Assistance Division to meet the increased workload arising from the growing number of complex requests for electoral assistance, to ensure adequate geographical coverage in the Division's activities and to address the greater demand for system-wide coordination of electoral activities. The increase in non-post resources relates to general temporary assistance to handle increasing workload in the Electoral Assistance Division arising from the surge in requests for electoral support, and to contractual services for the proposed conversion of paper-based data on over 900 electoral experts into a web-based application and the maintenance of that roster.

Subprogramme 3
Security Council affairs

Resource requirements (before recosting): $12,120,800

3.35 Responsibility for subprogramme 3 is vested in the Security Council Affairs Division, which will provide advice and substantive services to the Security Council and its subsidiary organs, particularly the sanctions committees and the Counter-Terrorism Committee, informal working groups, the Military Staff Committee and the Committee established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004). Advice and substantive services will be provided through timely issuance of parliamentary documentation and communications; effective coordination of meetings; provision of guidance, in accordance with the Charter, the Council's provisional rules of procedure, Council decisions and past practice, to the Security Council and the wider United Nations membership; provision of support to expert monitoring groups and panels; planning and organization of missions by Security Council members and chairpersons of its subsidiary organs; research and analysis, including with respect to the implementation, effectiveness and impact of mandatory measures or sanctions imposed by the Council; advocacy and advice regarding the concept of "smarter" sanctions; and the provision of familiarization sessions for new members of the Security Council with respect to the evolving procedures, practice and working methods of the Council and its subsidiary organs, particularly the sanctions committees. The Security Council Affairs Division consists of the following organizational units: the Office of the Director, the Security Council Secretariat Branch, the Security Council Subsidiary Organs Branch, the Security Council Practices and Charter Research Branch and the secretariat of the Military Staff Committee.

Table 3.17 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate the deliberations of and effective decision-making by the Security Council and its subsidiary organs.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Meetings conducted in a timely and procedurally correct manner	(a) Degree of satisfaction expressed by members of the Security Council, as well as the wider United Nations membership, with the services provided by the Security Council Affairs Division *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 90 per cent favourable feedback Estimate 2004-2005: 90 per cent favourable feedback Target 2006-2007: 90 per cent favourable feedback
(b) Improved access to information relating to the work of the Security Council and its subsidiary organs	(b) Increased number of pages viewed of the online *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* and increased number of times that the Security Council website is accessed *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: Not available Estimate 2004-2005: 1,400,000 page views Target 2006-2007: 1,470,000 (or an increase of 5 per cent over the actual number of page views in 2004-2005)
(c) Decisions of the Security Council and its subsidiary organs are appropriately followed up	(c) Establishment, under Security Council sanctions committees, of monitoring mechanisms within the time frame stipulated by Security Council resolutions *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 100 per cent timely implementation Estimate 2004-2005: 100 per cent timely implementation Target 2006-2007: 100 per cent timely implementation

(d) Efficient and timely organization and staffing of Security Council missions to countries concerning matters of which the Council is seized	(d) Efficient and effective Security Council missions to countries concerning matters of which the Council is seized *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 100 per cent timely issuance of comprehensive mission reports Estimate 2004-2005: 100 per cent timely issuance of comprehensive mission reports Target 2006-2007: 100 per cent issuance of comprehensive mission reports

External factors

3.36 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that there is political will on the part of Member States.

Outputs

3.37 During the biennium, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) General Assembly:

Parliamentary documentation: reports of the Security Council to the General Assembly (2); notifications by the Secretary-General to the Assembly under paragraph 2 of Article 12 of the Charter of the United Nations (2);

(ii) Security Council:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings and consultations of the Council as a whole, as required; meetings of informal working groups of the Council and bilateral and group consultations, as required; meetings of subsidiary organs of the Council, including sanctions committees, as required;

b. Parliamentary documentation: list of communications from private individuals and non-governmental bodies relating to matters of which the Security Council is seized and its circulation to all representatives on the Security Council, pursuant to paragraph A of the appendix to the provisional rules of procedure of the Council (2); facilitation of the issuance of documentation of the Council; documentation relating to the work of the subsidiary organs of the Council, including sanctions committees; resolutions and decisions of the Council; summary statement by the Secretary-General on matters of which the Council is seized and weekly addenda;

(b) Assistance to representatives and rapporteurs: administrative support and substantive guidance to expert groups mandated by the Security Council, including in connection with the monitoring and implementation of sanctions; maintenance of a roster of experts to facilitate timely recruitment of qualified persons for such expert groups;

(c) Other substantive activities (regular budget and extrabudgetary):

(i) Recurrent publications: supplements to update the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

(ii) Fact-finding missions: missions of members and/or chairpersons of subsidiary organs of the Security Council, including sanctions committees (6), and missions of the Council to countries or regions in connection with matters of which the Council is seized (4);

(iii) Technical material: continued development of the posting of Security Council documents on the United Nations website, including the *Repertoire*; further development of the integrated information database concerning the functioning of the Council and its subsidiary organs;

(iv) Seminars for outside users: symposia and working papers — contribution to the continuing dialogue on general issues regarding sanctions, including the refinement of the instrument to make it more effective and less injurious to vulnerable groups and third States;

(v) Training courses, seminars and workshops: orientation of new Council members with respect to the evolving practice, procedures and working methods of the Council and its subsidiary organs (4).

Table 3.18 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 3**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Post	12 485.2	11 524.0	58	52
Non-post	3 150.6	596.8	—	—
Subtotal	**15 635.8**	**12 120.8**	**58**	**52**
Extrabudgetary	197.7	197.7	—	—
Total	**15 833.5**	**12 318.5**	**58**	**52**

3.38 The resource requirements for posts indicated in table 3.18 provide for the continuation of 52 posts, services of consultants and experts, travel of staff, contractual services and general operating expenses. The level of resources proposed takes into account the abolition of six posts related to the Counter-Terrorism Committee following the establishment of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate. The decrease under non-post items largely reflects the establishment of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and consequent adjustments to resources provided under the subprogramme.

Subprogramme 4
Decolonization

Resource requirements (before recosting): $1,338,000

3.39 The activities of subprogramme 4 will be carried out by the Decolonization Unit. It will continue to provide advice and substantive support to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and

Peoples and the General Assembly and facilitate the substantive deliberations on the situation in the 16 Non-Self-Governing Territories. Assistance will also be provided in the preparation and conduct of seminars, held alternately in the Caribbean and the Pacific, in improving cooperation with the administering Powers and in connection with the visiting missions to the Territories and any other activity carried out by the Special Committee to implement its mandate. The subprogramme will continue to follow political, economic and social developments in the Territories, prepare the annual working papers and other substantive materials and further develop and maintain the Internet website on decolonization. In addition, in cooperation with the Department of Public Information, information material on decolonization, including publications and audio and visual programmes, will be prepared and disseminated to a wide audience.

Table 3.19 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To promote the decolonization process in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly for the 16 remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to bring about the complete eradication of colonialism.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
The Special Committee and the General Assembly will be able to carry out their decolonization mandates and make progress in the decolonization process of the 16 remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories	At least 95 per cent of parliamentary documents are submitted within deadlines *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 100 per cent Estimate 2004-2005: 100 per cent Target 2006-2007: 100 per cent

External factors

3.40 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that (a) the administering Powers will submit, in a timely manner, information on the Territories under their administration, pursuant to Article 73 of the United Nations Charter; (b) Member States will continue to support the decolonization process; (c) the specialized agencies will provide information on their activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories; and (d) administering Powers will cooperate with the Special Committee in the implementation of the United Nations decisions regarding decolonization.

Outputs

3.41 During the biennium, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary meetings of the Assembly (2) and plenary meetings of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (5);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations; on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories; and on information on Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations (6);

(ii) Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary meetings of the Special Committee, meetings of the Bureau of the Special Committee and meetings of the regional seminars (112);

b. Parliamentary documentation: working papers on the 16 Non-Self-Governing Territories (32);

(iii) Economic and Social Council:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the Economic and Social Council as required;

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports on the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (2);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

Development and maintenance of the Internet website on decolonization.

Table 3.20 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 4**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Post	1 315.7	1 315.7	5	5
Non-post	22.3	22.3	—	—
Total	**1 338.0**	**1 338.0**	**5**	**5**

3.42 The resource requirements indicated in table 3.20 provide for the continuation of the existing five posts of the unit, as well as for general temporary assistance and overtime at the maintenance level. Resources for visiting missions of the Special Committee and for travel of representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories to participate in the work of the Special Committee are provided for separately under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management.

Subprogramme 5
Question of Palestine

Resource requirements (before recosting): $5,502,900

3.43 Subprogrammes provides substantive support and secretariat services for the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. There continues to be a need to raise international awareness of the core issues of the question of Palestine as well as of the fundamental principles needed for a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to it. The peace process is expected to result in a negotiated settlement of all outstanding issues, which would be accompanied and followed up by peacebuilding measures for the Palestinian people, including sustained assistance. Supportive action by the United Nations will continue until all aspects of the question of Palestine are effectively resolved in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy and until the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are fully realized.

3.44 The subprogramme will be implemented by the Division for Palestinian Rights, in consultation with and under the guidance of the Committee. The mandate of the Division, established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, has been expanded over the years and was most recently reaffirmed by the Assembly in its resolution 59/29 of 1 December 2004.

Table 3.21 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To enable the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
Through the work of the Division for Palestinian Rights, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People will generate heightened international awareness of the question of Palestine, as well as international support for the rights of the Palestinian people and the peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine	(i) Sustained level of dialogue, engagement and support on the part of the international community for the programme's objectives *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 4 adopted resolutions Estimate 2004-2005: 4 adopted resolutions Target 2006-2007: 4 adopted resolutions (ii) Increased number of civil society organizations accredited to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 40 organizations accredited Estimate 2004-2005: 30 additional organizations accredited

Target 2006-2007: another 30 additional organizations accredited

(iii) Increased number of pages viewed on the United Nations website on the question of Palestine

Performance measures:

2002-2003: 14 million page views

Estimate 2004-2005: 14.5 million page views

Target 2006-2007: 15 million page views

External factors

3.45 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that the situation on the ground and developments in the political process are conducive to the full implementation of the subprogramme.

Outputs

3.46 During the biennium 2006-2007, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People:

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings: Committee and Bureau meetings (50); international meetings and conferences (8) (1 in North America, 2 in Europe, 2 in the Middle East, 1 in Africa, 1 in Asia and the Pacific and 1 in Latin America and the Caribbean); and consultations with civil society organizations (2) (1 in New York and 1 in Geneva);

(ii) Parliamentary documentation: annual reports of the Committee to the General Assembly (2); Committee correspondence; substantive notes, working papers, talking points, statements and other material for meetings of the Committee and the Bureau and other meetings in which the Committee participates (24); compilation of resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and Security Council relating to the question of Palestine; draft programme of work; substantive notes, agendas, draft statements and final documentation and Chairman's reports for eight international meetings and conferences and two consultations with civil society organizations;

(b) Other substantive activities:

(i) Recurrent publications: annual bulletin and annual note on the commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (4); bimonthly NGO Action News (48); monthly chronology of developments relating to the question of Palestine based on regular monitoring of news media, the Internet and various publications (24); final reports of international meetings and conferences convened under the auspices of the Committee (8); monthly bulletin on United Nations and intergovernmental action relating to the question of Palestine (24); periodic reviews of developments related to the Middle East peace process (6);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: studies and information notes (4);

(iii) Exhibits, guided tours, lectures: annual Palestinian exhibit or a cultural event in connection with the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People at Headquarters, including film screenings (2); briefings to United Nations officials, visitors, non-governmental organizations and others;

(iv) Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits: information materials and services, including in electronic form, and ongoing maintenance and expansion of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine (UNISPAL) and Internet sites (24);

(v) Special events: annual observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November; other special events organized at the discretion of the Committee (4); information-sharing, outreach efforts and participation in meetings of civil society in support of the Committee's work and objectives (16);

(vi) Technical material: administration, maintenance and development of UNISPAL; databases on NGOs, experts and non-United Nations documentation; Internet and Intranet websites of the Division and the Committee;

(vii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: assistance to the Palestinian Authority through an annual training programme for staff of the Authority prepared and conducted by the Division for Palestinian Rights; support for the participation of Palestinian representatives in events other than those organized by the Division for Palestinian Rights but that are supported by the Committee.

Table 3.22 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 5**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Post	3 680.7	3 680.7	16	16
Non-post	1 903.4	1 822.2	—	—
Total	**5 584.1**	**5 502.9**	**16**	**16**

3.47 The resource requirements shown in table 3.22 provide for the continuation of the existing 16 posts and for non-post items including general temporary assistance, consultants and experts, general operating expenses, travel of staff and supplies and equipment. The reduction in non-post resources is based on the pattern of expenditure mainly under travel and equipment.

4. Programme support

Resource requirements (before recosting): $4,607,000

3.48 The Executive Office provides administrative, managerial and programme support necessary for the implementation of the mandated activities of the Department. It assists the Under-Secretary-General in the preparation of the proposed biennial programme plans, the preparation and monitoring of the proposed programme budget, the management of trust funds and extrabudgetary resources, relevant support services for the efficient utilization of human resources and the planning, and control and coordination of requirements related to general office administration. In addition, it provides administrative and logistical support to a number of special representatives

and envoys of the Secretary-General, as well as to peacebuilding offices and political missions in the field. The Executive Office also handles the Department's information technology needs, including the maintenance and upgrading of computer equipment and user applications through its Information Management Team.

Table 3.23 **Resource requirements: programme support**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Post	2 213.2	2 213.2	13	13
Non-post	2 124.5	2 393.8	—	—
Subtotal	**4 337.7**	**4 607.0**	**13**	**13**
Extrabudgetary	281.9	281.9	—	—
Total	**4 619.6**	**4 888.9**	**13**	**13**

3.49 The resource requirements indicated in table 3.23 provide for the continuation of the existing 13 posts as well as non-post items including temporary assistance for the short-term replacement of staff during peak periods or extended maternity and sick leave, contractual services, general operating expenses, furniture and equipment, and supplies and materials. The increase in non-post costs relates primarily to the higher level of service for the maintenance of the Department's information technology and office automation equipment.

B. Special political missions

Resource requirements (before recosting): $355,949,300

3.50 In the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2006-2007 (A/59/415), the Secretary-General proposed a provision of $349.4 million for special political missions related to peace and security that are expected to be extended or approved in the course of the biennium. Having considered the proposed programme budget outline and the additional information provided thereon, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended in paragraphs 10 and 11 of its report (A/59/600) a preliminary estimate of $3,760 million for the biennium 2006-2007, including a provision of $355,949,300 for special political missions. The recommendation of the Advisory Committee was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/278.

3.51 Consequently, the resources for political missions related to peace and security that are expected to be extended or approved in the course of the biennium 2006-2007 are estimated at $355,949,300. As in the biennium 2004-2005, the utilization of the amount will be subject to individual legislative mandates and approval by the General Assembly as and when the Assembly and/or the Security Council establish or renew such mandates. Detailed justification of resource requirements will be submitted to the General Assembly through the Advisory Committee in the same manner as statements of programme budget implications and revised estimates. Once the Advisory Committee has reviewed such proposals and made its recommendations, it will be up to the

General Assembly to agree that such requirements will represent an appropriate charge against the provision of $355,949,300 for special political missions.

3.52 Any additional requirement above the provision of $355,949,300 will continue to be treated as at present in accordance with the provisions of annex I, paragraph 11, of General Assembly resolution 41/213.

Table 3.24 Resource requirements: special political missions

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Non-post	355 949.3	355 949.3	—	—
Subtotal	**355 949.3**	**355 949.3**	—	—
Extrabudgetary	2 030.2	820.4	—	—
Total	**357 979.5**	**356 769.7**	—	—

3.53 The resource requirements indicated in table 3.24 reflect the provision in General Assembly resolution 59/278 in which the Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 10 and 11 of its report (A/59/600).

C. Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process

Resource requirements (before recosting): $13,137,900

3.54 In June 1994, the Secretary-General appointed the first United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories, with a view to ensuring the coordinated work of the United Nations system for an adequate response to the needs of the Palestinian people and to mobilizing financial, technical, economic and other assistance. The appointment was made concurrent with the full establishment of the Palestinian Authority, in accordance with the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements and the Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area, signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in September 1993 and May 1994, respectively. The appointment of the Special Coordinator was welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/88 of 16 December 1994. In February 1997, the functions of the Special Representative to the multilateral talks on Middle East peace were combined with those of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories.

3.55 In September 1999, taking into account developments in the Middle East peace process, the Secretary-General decided to establish a new position of United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority. This new arrangement subsumed the previous functions and responsibilities of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories.

3.56 The main objective of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority is to enhance United Nations assistance to the Middle East peace process

by ensuring that the Organization is well prepared to respond in a rapid, effective and coordinated manner to requests by the parties related to their negotiations or to the implementation of political agreements. In this regard, the Office of the Special Coordinator provides a well-recognized focal point within the United Nations system vis-à-vis the parties to the peace process, regional and international actors, and international and multilateral institutions. The Special Coordinator also serves as the United Nations focal point for the socio-economic aspects of the peace process and related United Nations development assistance for Jordan, Lebanon, the occupied Palestinian territory and the Syrian Arab Republic.

3.57 The basic orientation of the Special Coordinator's office will be to provide a comprehensive framework for United Nations diplomatic and socio-economic support for the peace process within the occupied Palestinian territory and the subregion. Much of this work will be carried out within the scope of the Quartet, made up of the United Nations, the European Union, the Russian Federation and the United States of America — which meets at the level of foreign ministers and the Secretary-General — and the various donor coordination mechanisms (the ad hoc Liaison Committee, the Local Aid Coordination Committee, the Task Force on Palestinian Reform and the Task Force on Project Implementation). The Quartet also meets at the level of envoys to the region, with the Office of the Special Coordinator playing a central role within this group.

3.58 Past experience suggests that unforeseen situations and their implications for the role of the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process will continue to evolve. Crisis conditions will require still further humanitarian coordination efforts and impose complex travel and security demands on the Office.

3.59 With frequent calls for the Secretary-General's good offices, increased demands on the United Nations from the parties related to the peace process and increased emphasis on the regional dimension of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, the Special Coordinator will focus on diplomatic support for the parties in their negotiations and support for the peace process.

Table 3.25 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To advance the Middle East peace process towards a comprehensive, just and lasting peace.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Participants will re-engage in taking parallel steps towards a lasting peace	(a) Increased frequency of negotiations between the parties involved in the conflict *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: 80 meetings Estimate 2004-2005: 150 meetings Target 2006-2007: 150 meetings
(b) Mobilization of resources for improving the socio-economic conditions of the Palestinian people	(b) Increased level of resources made available for improving the socio-economic conditions of the Palestinian people

	Performance measures: 2002-2003: Not available Estimate 2004-2005: Not available Target 2006-2007: $1,700 million
(c) Coordinated response to the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people	(c) Number of joint projects and activities carried out by United Nations system organizations *Performance measures*: 2002-2003: Not available Estimate 2004-2005: Not available Target 2006-2007: 13 country programmes jointly implemented by United Nations system organizations

External factors

3.60 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) there is political will on the part of all parties to maintain a ceasefire and enter into a meaningful framework of political dialogue, and to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process in the performance of its functions, (b) there is adequate political and financial support by Member States and (c) the security situation in the area is favourable.

Outputs

3.61 During the biennium 2006-2007, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: updated directory of non-governmental organizations in the West Bank, updated directory of non-governmental organizations in Gaza and updated directory of international non-governmental organizations;

(ii) Political reporting to the Secretary-General, the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, as required;

(iii) Briefings to the Security Council, as required;

(iv) Maintenance of contacts with Governments and their accredited representatives in the region;

(v) Press releases, press conferences: press conferences; press meetings with Arab press; press releases; establishment and maintenance of contacts with media;

(vi) Technical material: assistance and guidance in support of donor coordination mechanisms; briefings to the Security Council, as required; collection and analysis of relevant substantive information;

(vii) Documentation for inter-agency meetings: reports on socio-economic aspects of the peace process in Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic; quarterly reports on the economic situation in the occupied Palestinian territory;

(b) Conference services, administration, oversight (regular budget): organization of regular meetings and consultations (150) with the relevant parties and actors.

Table 3.26 **Resource requirements: Office of the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007 (before recosting)*	*2004-2005*	*2006-2007*
Regular budget				
Post	10 044.6	10 497.0	56	56
Non-post	2 719.4	2 640.9	—	—
Total	**12 764.0**	**13 137.9**	**56**	**56**

3.62 The resource requirements indicated in table 3.26 provide for the continuation of the existing 56 posts as well as for non-post items, including general temporary assistance and consultancy services for expertise not available in-house; travel of the Special Coordinator and his staff; general operating expenses, including rental and maintenance of premises, communications and maintenance of equipment; hospitality; stationery and office supplies; and replacement of furniture and equipment. The increase in post costs relates to the delayed impact of new posts approved in the biennium 2004-2005. The decrease in non-post requirements reflects adjustments of resources mainly under furniture and equipment.

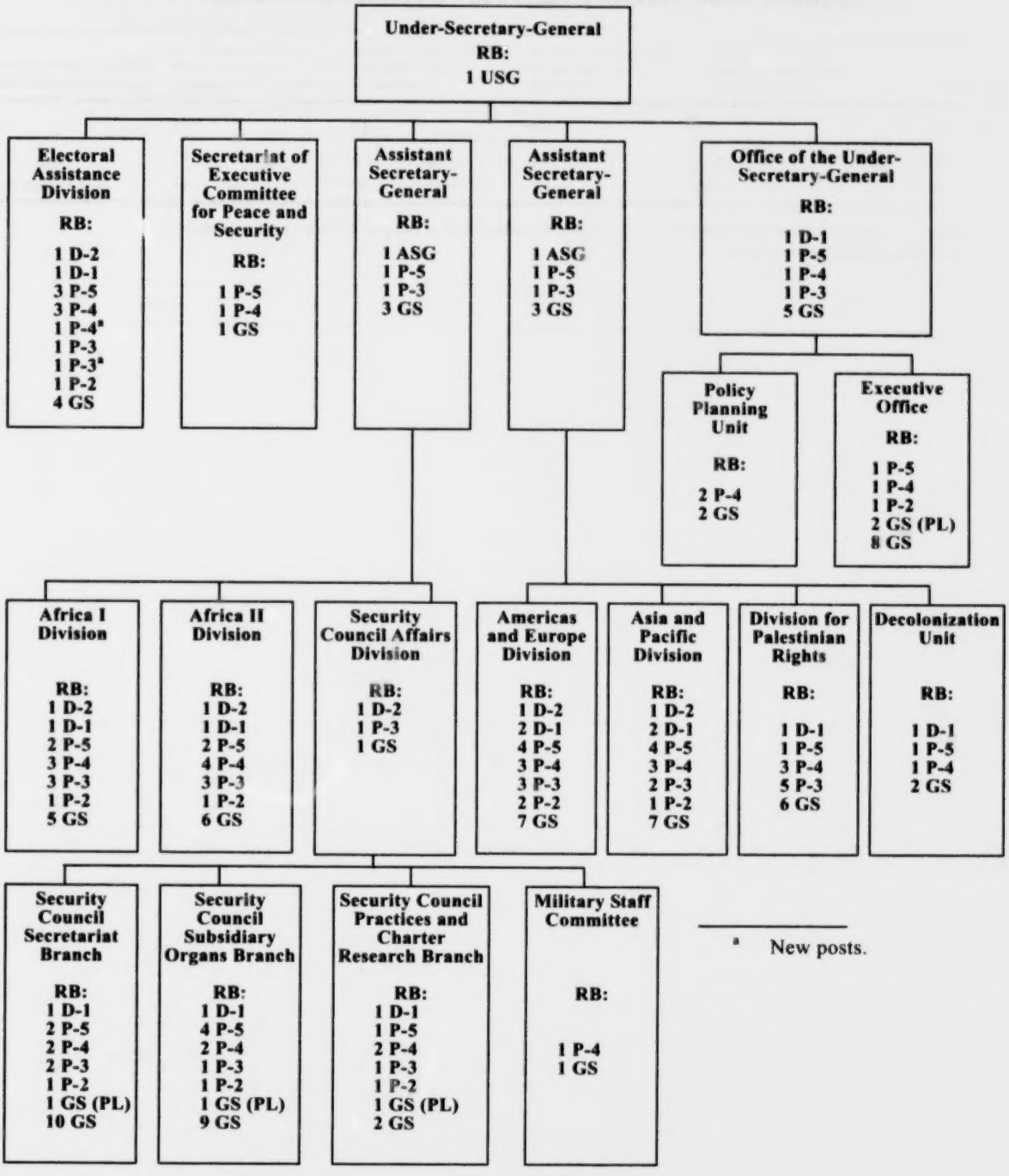
Table 3.27 **Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the oversight bodies**

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/58/7 (chap. II))	
The Committee encouraged the continuation of collaboration with other offices and entities of the United Nations, such as the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Centre for International Crime Prevention, and its extension to other missions on the basis of lessons learned (para. II.9).	Special political missions have sought to develop further complementarities and synergies with other United Nations entities in the missions' areas of responsibility. The Department has placed emphasis on coordination in the field with other United Nations departments, agencies, funds and programmes in areas related to peace and security as well as in achieving administrative efficiencies through the sharing of resources. Complementarities between various United Nations entities are shown in the following areas: early warning and conflict prevention, political leadership, peacebuilding, demining,

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
	humanitarian assistance, resource-sharing and sanctions.
The Committee called for the streamlining of support mechanisms, in particular Security Council mechanisms, in order to increase efficiency and release support resources that could be redeployed to other areas of the Department (para II.3).	Every effort was made to streamline and optimize support capacities, particularly with respect to monitoring mechanisms established by the Security Council. Procedures for communicating with Council members and members of the subsidiary organs, as well as for disseminating to the wider United Nations membership information relevant to the work of these bodies, were also enhanced, including through more efficient use of information and communication technology. In particular, an information management system is being developed to enhance the work of the monitoring team that supports the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities. This system is being specifically designed to support simultaneously the work of related bodies established by the Security Council, thereby enhancing those bodies' access to information while avoiding duplication. This streamlining also made it possible for subprogramme 3, Security Council affairs, to continue to meet, with a high standard, the requirements of providing substantive servicing to the Security Council and its subsidiary organs, despite the increase in the number of sanctions committees and other subsidiary organs from 6 to 10 in 2004, and the four monitoring mechanisms established by the Council.
The data in paragraph 3.32 of A/58/6 (sect. 3) (electoral assistance) should be presented in tabular form in future (para. II.11).	As requested by the Committee, data on requests for electoral assistance are provided in annex I below.
The Committee encouraged coordination and cooperation in these activities with other entities of the United Nations, such as UNDP (para. II.11).	Coordination and cooperation between the Electoral Assistance Division and UNDP follow the modalities set out in a note of guidance on electoral assistance issued in 2001. UNDP executes technical assistance projects based on recommendations made by

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
	Electoral Assistance Division needs-assessment missions in response to governments' requests for assistance. The Division gives UNDP policy guidance and technical support during project execution.
The Committee also encouraged the Electoral Assistance Division to become more proactive with regard to lessons learned and to share its experience, particularly as regards East Timor and Kosovo, with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (para. II.11).	Electoral assistance in the context of peacekeeping operations is provided by the Electoral Assistance Division in close coordination with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. Lessons learned are shared.

Department of Political Affairs
Organizational structure and post distribution for the biennium 2006-2007



[a] New posts.

Annex I

Requests from Member States for electoral assistance

Biennium	*Number of requests carried over from the previous biennium*	*Number of new requests received during the biennium*	*Number of requests outside acceptance parameters*[a]	*Number of requests in response to which assistance was completed*	*Assistance carried over to the subsequent biennium*
2000-2001	9	47	19	26	11
2002-2003	11	56	8	32	27
2004-2005	27	22[b]	5[b]	9[b]	Not known yet

[a] In general, requests must be received from four to six months ahead of the planned electoral process.
[b] As at the end of February 2005.

Annex II

Outputs produced in 2004-2005 not to be carried out in the biennium 2006-2007

A/58/6, paragraph	*Output*	*Quantity*	*Reason for discontinuation*
3.28 (a) (i)	Reports on cooperation between the United Nations and various regional and subregional organizations	7	Consolidation of eight reports of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and various regional and subregional organizations into one larger report, as requested by the Assembly in resolution 58/316
Total		**7**	